

Received

DEC 28 2011

Office of PAGR

December 13, 2011

Dean J. Granholm  
Vice President, Delivery and Post Office Operations  
Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Ave NW, Ste 200  
Washington D.C. 20268-0001



A2012-109  
RECEIVED

2011 DEC 28 P 3:07

POSTAL REGULATORY  
COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: The closing of the Bovill, Idaho post office

Mr. Granholm,

We, the Session of the Bovill Community Presbyterian Church, would like you to reconsider the closing of our local post office. While we don't generate a high volume of mail through the 83806 zip code, the post office is hub of our small town and surrounding community. As you are aware, we have no retail center in our town but we do take pride in having a post office. It is the center of most of our days: running into one another, passing a story along or seeking help from or for others.

Additionally, we take offense at the many mistakes and blatant assumptions in your report, namely:

- The town of Bovill, Idaho was incorporated in 1907. Your report incorrectly states we are unincorporated.
- We are the only active church in this community and we are a Presbyterian Church (USA), not Lutheran.
- Of the 61 returned questionnaires regarding your proposed changes only one was favorable. How can you be so confident of this new plan when an overwhelming majority of the community is obviously against it?
- The yearly income generated by this office has gone down because our population has gone down, but the demand of the services provided by the Postal Service has not, namely postage purchases and money orders. For many members of this community, driving to a larger town for banking is a luxury. This post office is the only way a lot of bills get paid. We feel the Stamps By Mail and Postal Money Orders from the carrier are not responsible or fair alternatives to the already existing centralized post office.
- Furthermore, your decision to provide our postal service out of Deary based on the assumption that we drive further to Moscow for "shopping, medical appointments and for (our) banking needs" is erroneous. We drive there sparingly and only because there's nothing closer. We are not an affluent community; several families in this town don't own cars that can get them to Moscow and those who do can't afford the gas it takes for frequent trips into town.

Might we suggest reducing the hours of the local office, since an employee would have to drive out here from the Deary office to fill the cluster boxes anyway? Perhaps they could stay a couple of hours a day in the building to provide customer service. At the very least, will you please consider keeping the building and individual boxes open and placing an automated machine inside for our shipping and purchasing needs?

May God bless you and keep you as you decide the future of this vital service to our town.

Sincerely,

The Session of Bovill Presbyterian Church

Jamie Fiorino, Pastor